

Indiana State Board of Education

Request for Freeway School Accreditation

Board Date: April 4 2012

School: Mosaic School

Education Director: Andrea Coffer

Address: 665 South Lake Street

Gary, Indiana 46403

Grade Span: 6-8

<u>Public/Private</u>: Private

Enrollment: New School

<u>Targeted Population</u>: Students interested in a private, faith-based middle school in an area where Gary public middle schools have closed and the middle grades moved into the high school buildings.

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

<u>Identity</u>: The mission of Mosaic School, Inc. is to enhance, support and promote creative and critical thinking as well as problem solving skills in the building of life-long learners and productive citizens to create a better global society. Mosaic School's aim is to address the creative and intuitive nature of the whole child by satisfying human desire to create, interpret, understand, express and enjoy learning and discovering by engaging students academically and fostering critical thinking skills.

<u>Curriculum</u>: Mosaic School will use a set of research-based programs and procedures to promote student success. These include long-term, intensive inquiry-based science and humanities investigations (learning expeditions) that are aligned with the Common Core Standards; literacy instruction based in content; student-led parent conferences; and proficiency-based grading and reporting structures.

Students will engage in the development of projects that enable them to apply their learning to real-world connections. Learning expeditions - curriculum units focusing on compelling historical, scientific, or literary topics — are aligned with Common Core Standards and integrate the teaching of content, concepts, and skills. Most real world learning culminates in professional quality products or performances for an audience outside the school, a feature that encourages students to do their best work.

Testing History: N/A

Staffing: While teacher hiring has not taken place, there is a commitment to hire the best qualified instructors available with strong academic backgrounds.

<u>Waiver Requests</u>: Mosaic School will choose its own curriculum and will evaluate the curriculum annually in the area of Health, Character Education, Hygiene, Alcohol and Drugs, Diseases transmitted sexually, Honesty, Respect and Abstinence.

Mosaic School desires to be exempted from any and all statutes that permit a school from operating from a Christian perspective, including textbook selection.

Issues: Staffing

<u>Recommendations</u>: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation

Rationale: As a new school, the instructional staff has not been hired. The school has committed to hiring as many licensed teachers as feasible.